## **Historic, Archive Document**

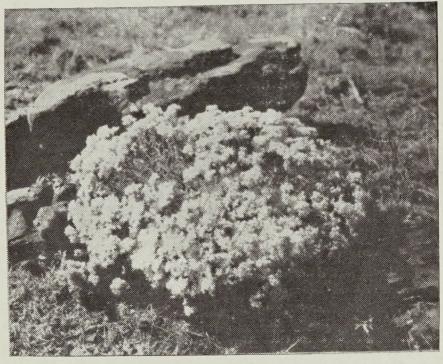
Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.





# BEAUTIFUL SON NATIVE PLANTS

FROM THE
HIGH PLAINS, BADLANDS
AND BLACK HILLS
1950



GUTIERREZIA SAROTHRAE Golden Dome, for short! Until September its countless fine stems and minute leaves are notable for their vivid green. Then it glows with gold, beside the blues, whites and pinks of asters, purple of liatris and deeper tones of goldenrods. Thrives in any poor or stony, firm soil.

### CLAUDE A. BARR

PRAIRIE GEM RANCH SMITHWICK, S. D.

FORWORD: To grow the Great Plains plants it is important to recognize native factors of adaptation and environment. Character and faculty have been molded in these plants by untold ages of existence where periods of moisture shortage are long and of moisture excess mostly brief.

Moisture retention devices in the plant structure have been developed to an outstanding degree to withstand shortage; to escape excesses the wise plants select high places and slopes, rocky, gravelly and porous soils from which excess water readily drains away or down, thus aeration is renewed. In general, moistness is sought, wetness avoided.

Rainfall on the Plains is often too infrequent for best growth, and so correct garden environment brings willing response and surprising performance and beauty.

A recommended scree for replacing soils that are close textured and impervious, or too rich and moisture retentive, or to counteract inescapable shade from remote trees or other objects, is mixed from equal parts of ordinary soil, coarse sand and fine gravel or rock chips, including some lime. This provides an excellent base for all Great Plains plants. The needs of certain subjects for portions of richer soil may be met by adding leafmold or other humus, locally, in planting or in top-dressing

SERVICE: High quality plants only are sent on your order. We do not substitute without permission. Our packing will please. In addition to culture suggested in this catalog special advice is offered when it may prove useful, or on request. Every effort will be made to get shipments out when desired and mention of your preferred date will be appreciated.

PRICES include prepaid delivery.

A SEED LIST is issued in autumn.

#### HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS

Achillaea lanulosa A pleasant little non-ramping Yarrow with heads of unusual whiteness, at 6 to 9". Travels an inch or two a year. Clump 35c.

Actinea simplex Wide daisies of brilliant gold, 4 to 8" above narrow leaved silvery rosettes. 35c.

Agastache anethiodora Anise Hyssop. Delightfully fragrant tall herb, spikes of blue-purple continuously, June on. Rich soil, shade. 50c.

Anemone caroliniana Brave and dainty and jewel-like, inch and a half wide, blue or white, of 8 to 20 cupped segments. 3, 50c; doz., \$1.50.

Anemone patens nutt. American Pasque. Large six-pointed stars of satiny lavender, March, April. South Dakota's state flower. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Antennaria Pussy-toes, Ladies' Tobaccos, Valuable evergreen rock garden ground covers, slow spreading, very low, each with its own texture.

A. anrica Procedulation

A. aprica Broad little leaves of silvery olive in inch high mats, pussy-toe blossoms at 4". Gray-white flowered, 30c; charming soft pink, 40c. Clumps.

A. campestris Broader leaves, rich, soft deep green with underside white. Toes white or silvery. 35c.

A. microphylla Tiny bluish silvery leaves in lovely pattern and texture. "Toes" white furry. 35c.

A. obovata Like a larger aprica; gray "toes". 35c.

A. oxyphylla Still broader obovate leaf of silver, in handsome pattern, for shade. New. 50c.

A. rosea Narrower leaved than aprica, with "toes" of rich deep rose. Strikingly lovely. 50c.

Arenaria hookeri Bevies of white flowers in June, needle-leaved cushion of rich deep green. Tap-

rooted, for scree with limestone. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

Arnica fulgens Big all-deep-golden daisies at 10", gray lanceolate leaves. New. 50c.

Artemisia frigida Low feathery, silvery and fragrant cushion sage. Arching silvery spikes with tiny yellowish bells in August. 35c; 3, 75c.

Asclepias pumila A diminutive milkweed, 8" stems closely set with little linear leaves, creamy white umbels, mid-summer on. 35c; 3, 75c.

Aster batesi Slender, arching stems with tiny stiff leaves, to 20" or more. Wreathes of tiny, closely set florets of blue-lavender and gold, Sept. New. 60c. Aster fendleri Delightful, rare, 10 to 12", rock plant. Airy inch-wide cupped blossoms of pearly blue, September. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

Aster kumleini Prairie Gem, an unequaled selection of one of the finest native asters. Broad 12" high sheet of blue and gold, September. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Aster kumleini Choice varieties, Dream of Beauty, pink; Blue Lace, silvery blue; to 15". Each 40c.

Aster meritus Rare, much admired pinkish violet in closely massed corymbs, 8 to 12". Special merit of July flowering. 50c; 3, \$1.10.

Aster ptarmicoides (Unamia alba) Long season beauty, beginning July; white rayed, cream centered. 10 to 15". Best in poor soil. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Aster Black Hills Magnificent tall plant, 36" or more, florets an inch and a half wide, an unsurpassed blue. (Species undetermined.) 60c.

Astragalus gilviflorus (Orophaca caespitosa) Wide "bun" of silver with a snow of high bannered stemless pea blossoms, April, May. 35c; 3, 85c.

Astragalus goniatus Fresh lavender bonnets accented with purple, amid green lace leafage, June to August. 4 to 8". May need confining. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Astragalus missouriensis Brilliant display of magenta-purple peas, June, on 12 to 20" circle of grayish prostrate branches. 35c; 3, 75c.

Astragalus spatulatus (Homalobus caespitosus) One of the precious gems of the rock gardeners' world, a blue-purple bun of early June. 50c; 3,

Astragalus tridactylicus Red Orophaca. A silvered bun blossoming into lovely lavender-rose. These taprooted kinds take lean limy scree. 50c; 3, \$1.25.

Callirhoe involucrata Wine Cups. Trailing stems to 25", deep glossy cups of intense and pleasing wine red, long summer season. 35c; 3, 85c.

Campanula petiolata Western Harebell. Blue purple or lavender flaring bells in profusion, June and later. 8 to 18". 35c; 3, 85c.

Cerastium strictum Earth hugging mat of vivid deep green, multitudinous white flowers to 8", May to July. Like a larger C. arvense. Clump 35c.

Chrysopsis villosa Golden Aster. Massed beauty in richest tone, Aug.-Sept. 12". For best effect shear back to 4" in June. Finest type, 35c; 3, 85c. Clematis (Viorna) scotti Leather Flower. Glaucous, with intriguing nodding urns of blue or purple at 10", May, June. Glossy seed plumes. 50c; 3, \$1.25 3, \$1.25.

Clematis (Atragene) tenuiloba Surprisingly large nodding purple blossoms of distinguished form and beauty, June, 10". Spreads slowly. 60c; 3, \$1.50.

Dalea (Parosela) aurea Novel and exotic appearing plant, silvery green and airy light yellow in prairies clover effect. 10 to 16", June. Scree. 50c.

Dales enneandra White and silver in slender swaying racemes atop slender 25 to 35" nearly leafless stem, June, August. Good. 35c; 3, 85c.

Dodecatheon pulchellum (pauciflorum) Up to 15 darting rose and gold stars to the umbel. Most adaptable and easy gem. 40c; 3, \$1.00; doz. \$3.50.

D. pulchellum White Comet Shining white with a ringlet of gold, otherwise as above. 60c each.

Drymocallis fissa Cinquefoil relative with five-petaled cups of butter yellow, June, at 10 or 12". Rather good neat dark foliage. New. 45c.

Echinacea angustifolia Wide rosy rays about a glossy mahogany cone. Strikingly different, beautiful. 10 to 15", mainly July. 35c; 3, 85c.

Erigeron asper Rich lavender in a dense shaggy fringe, inch and a fourth wide, with the golden eye.

9 or 10", fine and valuable. Rare. 50c.

Erigeron caespitosus Fine white and gold, 1" wide, at 4 to 8", June. Distinct appeal. 50c each.

Erigeron flagellaris Whiplash Daisy. White and

gold in long season bounty. Rooting runners. Clump 35c.

Erigeron nematophyllus Upstanding white and gold jewels of May and June, inch wide, crowded, 4" above a green cushion. Sunny scree. 50c; 3,

Erigeron Prairie Gem Like flagellaris but daintier, less invasive, with greener and lobed leaves. 50c.

Beautiful all-season mats of Eriogonum flavum rich green felted leaves, large fluffy umbels of soft yellow, in June. 4 to 12". Scree. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Evolvulus nuttallianus Quaint half-inch lavender morning-glories on a furry gray bushlet, 8" usually. Definitely not on the pest order. 35c; 3, 75c.

Gutierrezia sarothrae Golden Dome. picture and description. 40c; 3, \$1.00. See cover

Hedeoma camporum Perennial Pennyroyal. Trim 8" rounded bushlet, flushed with pink lavender mint blossoms, June on. Fine fragrance. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Iris arenaria A foreigner but a joy to every gardener. Tiny leaves, abundant yellow blossoms, 4" over all. Endures drought. 40c. each.

I. missouriensis Slender upright foliage, graceful blossoms of silvery blue, to 18", June. 40c.
Lathyrus incanus. Sand Pea. Purple-rose banners,

pink to white wings, large blossoms, clusters 2 to 7, May. Downy plant, 4 to 10". L. ornatus, same except glabrous, often brighter in banner. These are spreaders worth controlling. Either, 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Lesquerella spatulata Bladder-Pod. Limestone jewel festive in brightest yellow crucifer blossoms, May, June. 4", spread 10". Gray-green rosettes. 40c.

Leucocrinum montanum Sand Lily. Stemless little lilies, waxy white, fragrant, in bountiful succession, April, May. 35c; 3, 90c; doz. \$3.00.

Liatris intermedia Handsome dwarf Blazing Star, a 16" L. spuarrosa. Fine purple, August. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Liatris ligulistylis Lovely showy clear purple 1" wide heads, 10 to 30, 18" or higher, July. 40c.

L. punctata. Dwarf Gayfeather. Fine luminous purple in dense fluffy spikes, 8 to 14", August.

Lithophragma parviflora Woodland Star. Slashed stars of white in capitate raceme, 4" May, to 12" in June. Rich soil. Tiny tubers, 3, 50; doz. \$1.60.

Lithospermum inearifolium Fringed Puccoon. Soft. glowing yellow ruffled trumpets, May. To 12". 40c.

Malvastrum coccineum Flame Mallow. Arresting salmon-scarlet in short dense spires, to 10". Long season. Handsome deeply cut foliage. 40c; 3, 90c. Arresting

Mortensia lanceolata Prairie Bluebell. Thrilling as the first bluebird come April clusters at 3", lavish blossoming to late June, to 10". 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Nothocalais cuspidata Rich textured 2" wide gol-Thrilling as

den blossoms, April, May, from a ground cluster of wavy, white margined leaves. 40c, 3, 90c.

Oenothera brachycarpa Magnificent soft yellow evening primroses, 4" wide, from a cluster of silky green leaves at the ground, open evening to morning. Spreads slowly from root. 50c each. Oenothera brachycarpa Magnificent

Oe. caespitosa Gumbo Lily. Great snowy fragrant evening primroses upon the ground in a patch of glossy lanceolate leaves. Open all day, May, Aug. Lecommended scree. 35c; 3, 75c.

Rich yellow blossoms, freely, Oe. lavandulaefolia June to frost. 2" wide, open most of day. Highly rated treasure. 50c; 3, \$1.20. 4 to 6".

Oe. serrulata Unrivaled display of inch wide saucers of brightest yellow, May, August, open most of day. Compact bushlet, to 10". 35c; 3, 75c.

Oe. speciosa "So altogether engaging that one is tolerant of its colonizing," said Mrs. Wilder. Day blooming, fragrant, white. 12". 35c; 3, 75c.

Oxytropis lamberti Purple Loco. Rich spectacular plumes of pea florets, red-purple to blue, light to dark, to 12", June. Low silvery foliage. 35c; 3, 75c.

Penstemon Society recommends: For moist climates 2 parts gravel or stone chips, 1 of sand, 1 of soil. soil.

- P. albidus Erect to 10 or 15", large white, June. Broadly lanceolate green foliage. 35c; 3, 75c.
- P. alpinus Fine blue, much like glaber but only 12" tall. Dark glossy foliage. 40c; 3, \$1.00.
- P. angustifolius. Exquisite large blossoms, melting deep azure with a harmonizing thread of soft pink at the throat. June. Plant glaucous. 35c; 3, 85c.
- P. caespitosus Tiny broad leaves in a 2" spreading mat, liberally sprinkled with lavender-blue, June. Quite at home at Prairie Gem, dry half shade. 50c.
- P. crandalli Evergreen creeper in broad mats, upturned bells of blue in June. Light shade. 60c.
- P. procumbens Referred to crandalli, it has lower mats of broader, glossier, greener leaves and bluer flowers. Endures heat better. Half shade. 60c.
- P. eriantherus Large lovely warm lavender with prominent tongue of gold. June, 8 to 12". Needs some clay and lime, no richness. 35c; 3, 85c.
- P. glaber Fine dark blue, to 18" or more, June, July, repeating if cut back. Adaptable. 35c; 3, 90c.
- P. gracilis A light and graceful smaller flowered kind in amethyst. 12", June, July. 35c; 3, 75c. P. grandiflorus. The stately Shell-leaf. Cool deep lavender with gray-green. 30". June. 40c; 3, \$1.00.
- P. haydeni Blow-out Penstemon. Large milkybluish fragrant blossoms. Gray-green plant of distinct character. 12 to 20". July. Very rare. 75c.

- P. humilis Very free flowering and easy. Small dark glossy leaves, blue-purple spires to 12". 40c; 3, \$1.00.
- P. secundiflorus Arching spires of reddish lavender, 16", glaucous plant. Excellent, showy.

Petalostemon purpureus Circlets of orange dotted purple-red on deep green slender thimbles, June, July. 15". Easy in scree or sand. Airy foliage. 35c; 3, 85c.

Petalostemon villosus Plump cones of soft silvery rose and silvery green velvet, lovely and decorative. July, Sept., 12". Same culture. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Phloxes of the Great Plains delight in scree with a bit of richness. Andicola and Little Cheyenne will succeed in any well drained lean soil. Keep cool until established, give half shade first summer.

- P. alyssifolia Soft lavender pink inch wide fragrant blossoms, May, June. Leaves lanceolate, white edged. 3 to 5". Slow mat former. 35c; 3, ,80c. A charming creamy albino alyssifolia, 40c; 3, 95c.
- P. andicola Large full lobed Phlox of the high prairies, forming colonies or mats. 4". White, 35c; 3, 70c. Select blue-lavender, 45c; 3, \$1.00. Select extra large white, 45c; 3, \$1.00.
- P. hoodi Mossy green, snowed over with lovely little blossoms, April, May. Very slow spreading, finally making wide mats. 35c; 3, 90c.
- P. longifolia Handsome upright species, to 6", cluster flowered, May. Leaves dark green, linear. Rich pink or glowing white, either, 50c; 3, \$1.35.
- P. Little Cheyenne (hoodi x andicola) Most perfect little florets imaginable, shining white with the usual speek of gold. May, 3". 50c; 3, \$1.00.

Potentilla divisa Astounding beauty in sunlit yellow from a tuft of silvered deep-cut leaves, early May. 3" with a spread of 10". 50c; 3, \$1.35.

Senecio purshianus Rock plant of all-season gray 2" foliage, displaying in June airy light gold blossoms at 8 or 9". 35c; 3, 85c.

Sideranthus spinulosus Massed inch wide asters in brilliant gold, Sept., Oct. Dense low type, 6". Fine textured frosty foliage. Hot dry spot. 35c; 3, 85c.

Sisyrinchium angustifolium Blue-eyed Grass. Neat clumps of rush-like leaves, profusion of six-pointed stars at 8". Any dryish spot. 35c; 3, 75c.

Sisyrinchium campestre 5" high with attractive little white water lilies. Better soil. 50c each.

Solidago glaberrima Dwarf selection of the Smooth Goldenrod. Charming broad based, nodding tipped panicles, to 12", August. Moderate traveler. 35c. Solidago mollis Especially rich billowy heads at 4 to 12", September. Gray-green. Slow traveler. 35c.

Solidago pulcherrima September beauty in groups of plump tapering rods, 16". Non-spreading. 50c. Talinum parviflorum Little Sunbright. Airy rosy blossoms every summer afternoon, to 7", from a 2" tuft of succulent leaves. Tiny thick roots, 3, 50c.

**Thalictrum venulosum** Dwarf with very neat all-summer faintly bluish foliage masses, to 8". Bronzy bloom to 15 or 18". 35c; 3, 85c.

Thermopsis rhombifolia Dwarf Golden Pea, 8 to 12". Broad packed racemes of glowing medium yellow, May. Unusual, beautiful colonizer. 40c. Townsendia exscapa Easter Daisy. Tuffet of narrow evergreen leaves, incredibly wide glowing pink daisies, all under 2". Dryest leanest scree. 40c. Townsendia sericea Even more dwarf, one of the very first of the Plains' responses to spring. Gem in white and ashy green, early April. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Tradescantia bracteata Rainbow Spiderwort. Bloom begins at 4" in June, continues to 10". Blue, purple, bright rose, each 35c; sky blue, white, appleblossom pink, each 50c; dozen, mixed, \$2.00.

Verbena bipinnatifida Continuous bloom, bright blue-lilac, May to October. Low, trailing. Hardy, avoid winter wet at crown. 35c, 3, 75c.

Viola adunca A smiling little old man in deep blue. Often blooms in autumn. Part shade. 35c; 3, 75c.

Viola montanensis Bevies of light violet-blue butterflies over a distinctly gray downy bun of foliage, May, June. Good soil, drainage, shade. 60c; 3, \$1.50.

Viola nuttalli Violet of brilliant gold of the dry sunny plains. Heavy producer, April through May, 2 to 6". Sun or light shade. 35c; 3, 85c.

Viola pedatifida Large blossoms of light violet borne above deeply incised leaves. Stemless. Any soil, light shade or sun. 35c; 3, 85c.

Viola rugulosa White tinted pink, with violet pencilings, 6 to 12". Short stolons. Clump 35c.

Viola vallicola Much like nuttalli, trifle larger, for moister richer position. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

Zinnia grandiflora (What smaller?) Inch wide single in brilliant gold, 5" high, colonizer for a hot spot and heavy hot weather production. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

#### BULBS FOR FALL PLANTING

Allium cernuum Nodding Onion. Light shell pink, July, 8 to 16". 3, 35c; doz., 75c.

A. recurvatum superbum Richer pink, to 20", folliage glaucous, flattish, broad. 35c; 3, 50c.

A. textile Broad upright umbels of green ribbed white stars, at 8", May. Summer dormant. Alliums may be moved in spring. 3, 25c; doz., 50c.

Androstephium caeruleum Blue Bethlehem. Broad umbels of soft blue, 4 to 8", tuft of slender green leaves, May. Large corms, 50c; blooming size, 35c.

Calochortus gunnisoni Gunnison Mariposa. Very lovely white chalice with clusters of greenish hairs at base. July, 16". Grassy leaves. 3, 35c; doz., \$1.00.

Calochortus nuttalli Sego Lily, Mariposa Tulip. Sun reflecting white with gold and maroon marks, June, 12". Glaucous plant. 3, 35c; doz., \$1.00.

Fritillaria atropurpurea Odd bronze-purple and pale yellow saucers, one to five on 8 to 10" stems. Good soil, sun or shade. 40c each.

Lilium umbellatum 4" upright cups of orange-red June, July, 10 to 18". Rich soil, well drained, 4" deep. Blooming size 35c; 3, 85c; large 50c.

Triteleia grandiflora (Brodiaea doug.) Ample umbels of waxy blue-lavender, to 18", June, from basal leaves of green. 3, 40c; doz., \$1.35.

Zygadenus gramineus False Camas. Massed creamy stars in a haze of golden stamens, erect spires, 8 to 16", June. Grassy leaves. 3, 35c; doz., 85c.

FOR GARDENS IN HALF SHADE and moderately rich soil, well drained: Achillaea lanulosa Agastache anethiodora, Alliums cernuum and recurvatum, Anemone patens, Antennarias campestris, microphylla, oxyphylla and rosea, Asters meritus and otarmicoides, Campanula patiolata, Cerastium strictum, Clematis tenuiloba, Dodecatheon pulchel-

lum, Erigerons asper and caespitosus, Iris missouriensis, Liatris ligulistylis, Lilium umbellatum, Lithophragma parviflora, Penstemons caespitosus, crandalli, procumbens and gracilis, Phloxes alyssifolia and hoodi, Thalictrum venulosum, all violets except nuttalli. With adequate moisture, however, much sun is equally agreeable to these shade tolerant kinds.

#### COLD CLIMATE CACTI

Coryphantha vivipara Ball, to 3" or more, showy carmine flowers, June. 30c; 3, 75c.

Echnocereus viridiflorus Cylinder, 3 or 4" tall, glossy green-yellow blossoms, June. 35c; 3, 90c.

Neobesseya missouriensis Ball, to 2" or more, Blossoms of yellow or pale orange. May. 30c; 3, 75c.

Opuntia fragilis Brittle Cactus. A pygmy prickly pear. Large yellow blossoms, June. 35c; 3, 90c.

O. humifusa Pads 4 to 6", largest silken yellow red centered blooms, late June. Ripe pears dark red, showy. 30c; 3, 75c.

O. mbricata Tree Cactus. Ribbed cylindrical sections, carmine flowers, July. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

O. polyacantha Many spined prickly pear, 4" or larger pads, 4" silken yellow blooms. 30c; 3, 75c.

O. rhodantha Much like the last, with stunning large blossoms of fine carmine. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

Culture: The above will bear 30 degrees or more below zero, but must prepare for it by drying and shriveling in advance of winter. An ample depth of nine parts gravel and coarse sand to one part of good loam, has been found to produce lavish bloom and to provide the essential winter dryness.

#### SHRUBS

Amorpha canescens Lead Plant. Low, gray velvety effect, orange dotted purple fingers of blossom, June, July. 12 to 25". 75c; 3, \$1.65.

Artemisia cana Rather stiffly erect Gray Sage, 2 to 3 ft. Leaves lance-linear,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". 60c; 3, \$1.50.

Artemisia filifolia Sand Sage. Beautiful, silvery, fragrant, much branched, 2 to 3 ft. 60c; 3 \$1.50.

Artemisia tridentata Sagebrush. Blue-silvered tiny three-tipped leaves, erect bushy plant. Nice fragrance. Local form, to 30". 75c; 3, \$1.65.

Atriplex canescens Salt Bush. Gray-green in branch and leaf, broad densely branched bush, to 24". Conspicuous gray-green seed bracts. 60c; 3, \$1.35.

Cercocarpus montanus Mountain mahogany. Little slightly grayish toothed leaves, bloom interesting, seed plumes silver-silky. Pleasing alone or grouped. Upright to arching, to 8 ft. \$1.00; 3, \$2.40.

Chrysothamnus graveolens Rabbit Brush. Every upper branch carries a head of goldenrod-like bloom in September. Striking effect. 3 ft. 75c; 3, \$1.80.

Eurotia lanata Winter-Fat Sagey appearing plant, holding its leaves well into winter and adding white seed tufts in fall. 12 to 20". 50c; 3, \$1.35.

Rosa arkansana J. W. Fargo Wild tetraploid of 40 petals, beautifully formed. "Wholly delightful wild rose pink," Mrs. Henry. Blossoms in clusters over many weeks, mainly July. 12 to 20". \$1.00 each.

Rosa foliolosa Delightful 1½" blossoms of pure white, usually to 10 or 12". Small shining leaflets. Runs moderately. \$1.00 each.

Rose Mrs. Mina Lindell An upright natural tetraploid, to 3 ft. Semi-double, a vivid carmine-crimson. Dark foliage, red stems, few thorns. \$1.00.